



STRATFORD HEALTH CENTRE | THE FOREST PRACTICE

PATIENT NEWS - FEBRUARY 2021



Dr Anil Shah
Medical
Director

Introduction from Dr Anil Shah

I appreciate it has been a very challenging time for our Patients and Practice teams with the continuing impact on our lives from the Coronavirus Pandemic.

My thoughts go out to our Patients, Employees and their families who have sadly lost loved ones and those who have contracted this relentless virus.

The national roll out of the Covid Vaccination Programme gives us hope of restoring a near to normal way of life and I would urge all of our eligible Patients to take up the offer of the vaccination when invited.

I am pleased that both Stratford Health Centre and The Forest Practice patients have been among the top volume in Newham for vaccinations within the priority groups.

We will get through this and I urge you all to continue to follow the Government guidelines, keep to the social distancing rules and maintain good hand hygiene

Who is eligible for the Covid Vaccination?

The plan is for all ADULTS to be offered the vaccination by the end of the Summer and invitations to patients are being staggered based on risk. Over 2,500 of our Patients (18%) have already received their first dose

PATIENTS IN CARE
HOMES
HOUSEBOUND
PATIENTS
ANYONE OVER 65
HEALTHCARE STAFF
NAMED CARERS
CLINICALLY
VULNERABLE

Our Patients in these priority groups listed have already been invited for their vaccination and we have achieved high take up rates. We are now in the process of contacting all of our 16-64 year old patients with underlying health conditions and then later in the Spring will be contacting the over 50's next.

We would kindly ask that you wait for our team to contact you - we will call several times and write to you if we are unable to make contact



Newham Council have devised several resources to support our Patients. This includes information on the additional 'shielded patients' who will have been notified of the additional precautions they need to take

<https://www.newham.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19>

Our Primary Care Network

Providing Additional Support to our Patients

Our two Practices are part of the Newham 'North West 2' Primary Care Network, one of the 10 established GP Practice networks in Newham. Led by Dr Anil Shah as the Clinical Director we now have a team of 12 health and social care professionals supporting the 5 members Practices and the team will expand further during 2021-22

SOCIAL PRESCRIBERS | PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATES | DIETITIAN | PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

We have been pleased that our Social Prescribing team has now increased to 5 full-time team members and they have been able to reach out to many of our patients supporting a variety of social needs and enlisting support from our wide ranging community and voluntary sector partners. They have also been able to offer targeted advice, support and reassurance to our patients who have been isolating / 'shielding' during the latest UK National lockdown.

We also now have a dedicated Dietician working for the Network and assisting our patients with lifestyle and nutritional choices to support their well-being.

Our Physician Associate team has expanded, and our team of two will soon become four - this will support the GP's and Nursing team in offering more appointments as well as supporting the Practice with increasing Clinical Administration.

Finally we have a Part time Pharmacy Technician supporting medication compliance and streamlining allocations where patients are on multiple medications.

'Out of Hours' Patient Access

8am to 8pm Sat & Sun | 6:30pm - 10pm Mon to Fri

Did you know that GP and Nurse Appointments are available within Newham everyday 'out of hours'?

If you cannot make an appointment during our core hours then our team are able to offer you an appointment at one of our GP Hubs in Newham at a time more convenient to you. We also operate an additional Saturday Morning clinic from Upton Lane Medical Centre - *please ask a member of our team for more details and we can book you in directly*



**IMPORTANT – CHANGE OF PHONE NUMBER, THE FOREST PRACTICE
FROM 1st MARCH 2021, THE MAIN PRACTICE NUMBER WILL BE
0203 474 6510**